



Grants, Resources and Notices from the Federal Government

July 2010

This following is intended to provide the public with basic information of potential federal assistance and funding opportunities. Those interested in these or similar programs should contact the appropriate federal and state agencies for detailed information.

This list is not exhaustive but representative of various funding opportunities, resources and notices from the Federal Government of interest to the Fifth District. This information is subject to change and additional requirements, restrictions and guidance may apply.

Table of Contents

Hit Control then Click on the links below to jump to categories

[Internal Revenue Service – TAX INFO](#)

[Veterans](#)

[Health](#)

[Environment](#)

[Agriculture](#)

[Homeland Security](#)

[Business Related](#)

[Education](#)

[Arts & Humanities](#)

[Housing and Community Development](#)

[General Grants Info](#)

United States Department of Treasury

Special Tax Incentives for Small Businesses to Hire New Workers

A variety of business tax deductions and credits were created, extended and expanded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), this year's Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act and the Affordable Care Act. Because some of these changes are only available this year, eligible businesses only have a few months to take action and save on their taxes. Here is a rundown of some of the key provisions.

For more info:

<http://www.irs.gov/irs/article/0,,id=223909,00.html>

United States Department of Treasury

Public Comment Period for New Rules of Tax Exempt Hospitals

Notice 2010-39 solicits comments regarding the application of certain requirements imposed by section 501(r), newly added to the Internal Revenue Code (Code) by the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act*, Pub. L. No. 111-148.

Section 501(r) affects hospital organizations that are currently described in section 501(c)(3) of the Code as exempt from Federal income taxation. It imposes four additional requirements that “hospital organizations” must satisfy, but does not otherwise affect the substantive standards for tax exemption that hospitals are required to meet under section 501(c)(3).

The additional requirements are:

1. Conduct a community health needs assessment every three years and adopt an implementation strategy to meet community health needs that are identified. A \$50,000 excise tax is imposed on hospital organizations that fail to meet this requirement.
2. Establish a financial assistance policy and a policy relating to emergency medical care.
3. For individuals eligible for assistance under the organization’s financial assistance policy, limit amounts charged for emergency or other medically necessary care to no more than that generally billed to individuals having insurance.
4. Forego extraordinary collection actions against an individual before the organization has made reasonable efforts to determine whether the individual is eligible for assistance under the organization’s financial assistance policy.

These additional requirements apply to:

1. an organization that operates a facility required by a State to be licensed, registered, or similarly recognized as a hospital; and
2. any other organization that the Secretary determines has the provision of hospital care as its principal function or purpose constituting the basis for its exemption under 501(c)(3).

For more info:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-10-39.pdf>

United States Department of Veterans Affairs
Grant Program for Non-Profit Housing Providers for Homeless Veterans

The Department of Veteran Affairs’ Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program facilitates “permanent, transitional, or temporary housing and ongoing case management and treatment services for homeless veterans.” To help Veterans obtain residential stability, the VA sets aside annual funding to community agencies and non profits that provide housing or supportive services to homeless Veterans.

Grant and Per Diem Funding

The funding program has two opportunities for non profits, including a grant and a per diem award:

- The VA’s Homeless Providers Grant can be used for construction, renovation, or acquisition of a building that will provide services for homeless Veterans. Grant recipients must match 35% from external funding sources. The grant may not be used for operational costs - like salaries - but grant recipients can apply for the per diem funds to offset related expenses.
- Unlike the grant, Per Diem funds are paid to specifically defray operational expenses. According to the VA, most grant awardees also apply for – and receive - per diem funds. If you want to apply for per diem funding, but your organization is not a grant awardee, you can still submit your application under a “Per Diem Only” request. Per Diem Only applicants must show that at least three-quarters of those receiving supportive housing or homeless services from your organization are Veterans.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants for the Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program must meet certain eligibility criteria:

- Non-profit organizations, state and local government agencies, or Indian Tribal governments planning to start new programs that provide supportive housing or supportive services for homeless Veterans
- Organizations with supportive housing programs for periods of up to 24 months or service centers that provide education, crisis intervention, counseling towards specialized audiences
- 75% of clients served must be Veterans

- Eligible non profits must have designated non-profit standing from the IRS.

For more info:

<http://www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD.asp>

United States Department of Health and Human Services
Recent Grant Notices

For more info:

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=AGENCYSEARCH&agency=HHS>

United States Department of Health and Human Services
Health Profession Opportunity Grants to Serve TANF Recipients and Other Low-Income Individuals

The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance will award cooperative agreements for demonstration projects that are designed to provide eligible individuals with the opportunity to obtain education and training for occupations in the health care field that pay well and are expected to either experience labor shortages or be in high demand. Individuals who are eligible to participate in funded programs are those receiving assistance under a State TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) program and other low-income individuals.

Deadline: **August 5, 2010**

Kind of Organizations Eligible: Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations, workforce investment boards, institutions of higher education, and states

For more info:

www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/view/HHS-2010-ACF-OFA-FX-0126

United States Department of Health and Human Services
Certification of Health IT

Certification of Health IT will provide assurance to purchasers and other users that an EHR system, or other relevant technology, offers the necessary technological capability, functionality, and security to help them meet the meaningful use criteria established for a given phase. Providers and patients must also be confident that the electronic health IT products and systems they use are secure, can maintain data confidentially, and can work with other systems to share information. Confidence in health IT systems is an important part of advancing health IT system adoption and allowing for the realization of the benefits of improved patient care.

Eligible professionals and eligible hospitals who seek to qualify for incentive payments under the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs are required by statute to use Certified EHR Technology. Once certified, Complete EHRs and EHR Modules would be able to be used by eligible professionals and eligible hospitals, or be combined, to meet the statutory requirement for Certified EHR Technology.

For more info:

<http://healthit.hhs.gov/certification>

United States Department of Health and Human Services
Early Retiree Reinsurance Program

Employers who offer health coverage to early retirees can begin applying for help with the costs. The Early Retiree program under health reform is good for our employers and good for Americans who retire before age 65. Americans

deserve access to quality, affordable health insurance at every age and every stage of life – and employers deserve the financial relief to do right by their employees while competing in the global marketplace.

The Early Retiree Reinsurance Program will invest \$5 billion in financial assistance for employer health plans offered to early retirees. This initiative will provide premium relief for employers while increasing access to high-quality medical coverage. As the President of Business Roundtable has said, 'The Early Retiree Reinsurance Program reduces costs and allows many of our member companies to continue providing this critical coverage to retirees and their families.'

The Early Retiree program will provide an important bridge for early retirees and their former employers as we move toward a more competitive, patient-centered health care system in 2014, when the Health Insurance Exchanges begin.

For more info:

<http://www.hhs.gov/ociio/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure for Improved Health Outcomes

The goal of the "Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure for Improved Health Outcomes" program is to systematically increase the performance management capacity of public health departments in order to ensure that public health goals are effectively and efficiently met. This program will increase the capacity and ability of health departments to meet national public health standards, such as those of the National Public Health Performance Standard Program (<http://www.cdc.gov/od/ocphp/nphpsp/index.htm>), Public Health Accreditation Board (<http://www.phaboard.org>), and National Quality Forum (<http://www.qualityforum.org>).

Deadline: **August 9, 2010**

Kind of Organizations Eligible: Eligible applicants include all 50 states, Washington, D.C., 9 large local health departments supporting cities with populations of 1 million or more inhabitants 5 U.S. Territories, 3 U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands and up to 7 federally-recognized tribes with an established public health department structure (or their equivalent) that provide public health services to their tribal members, or bona fide agents of any of the eligible entities. A Bona Fide Agent is an agency/organization identified by the state as eligible to submit an application under the state eligibility in lieu of a state or large city application.

For more info:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/announce.do;jsessionid=RkVLM1dZKbZJBBqD8CQ8rVhy8m2nRrJFF9h5hxbfhmN4M83W1hpf!1386858017>

United States Environmental Protection Agency
2010 Environmental Research Grant Announcements

2010 Science To Achieve Results (STAR) Research Grants EPA Grants

- Environmental Factors in the School Environment Influencing Children's Health and Performance - Opens May 2010
- Understanding Day Care Environments of Children - Opens June 2010 - Postponed until 2011
- **Black Carbon's Role In Global To Local Scale Climate And Air Quality - Open: May 19, 2010 - Closing: September 22, 2010**
- Dynamic Air Quality Management - Opens October 2010
- Coarse Particulate Matter - Opens November 2010
- Tribal Environmental Health Science - Opens March 2010 Postponed until 2011

2011 EPA and Other NCER Environmental Research Competitions

- 8th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet - Opens September 2010

2011 EPA Environmental Research Fellowships

- Fall 2010 EPA Science To Achieve Results (Star) Fellowships For Graduate Environmental Study - Opens: Summer 2010
- Fall 2010 EPA Greater Research Opportunities (GRO) Fellowships for Undergraduate Environmental Study - Opens: Summer 2010

- Learn more about [Fellowships](#)

For more info:

<http://www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/#CurrentStar>

United States Department of Agriculture
Hunger-Free Communities Grants

The Department of Agriculture will issue grants to establish hunger-free communities and learn more about effective strategies to reduce hunger in the United States. The program has two models of grants: planning and assessment grants and implementation grants.

Application deadline: **September 1, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible:

Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations with 501 (c) 3 status

For more info:

http://www.fns.usda.gov/fns/outreach/documents/hfc_rfa.pdf

United States Department of Homeland Security
Grants

Grant guidance for the following programs has been released.

For more info:

<http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/index.shtm>

United States Department of Homeland Security
Contracting Opportunities

Solicitation #	DHS Office/Agency	Project	Point of Contact	Response Date
HSCGG3-10-R-PWV888	Coast Guard	Information Technology Services--Core Technologies Services (CTS)	Kathy P Klein kathy.p.klein@uscg.mil	N/A
HSTS03-10-R-PER003	TSA	Document Conversion/Destruction Services	Gladys M Wilks gladys.wilks@dhs.gov	N/A
HSBP1010Q0094	CBP	Tactical Communications Modernization Project Equipment and Services for El Paso, TX	Evon M Pollack evon.pollack@dhs.gov	N/A
HSHQDC-10-R-00053	Office of the Chief Procurement Officer	Test and Evaluation Support for Non-Intrusive and Threat Detection Technologies	Shelby Buford Jr., shelby.buford1@dhs.gov	N/A
HSBP1010Q54953	CBP	Engineering Power Study	Fang-Ting Manson fang-ting.manson@dhs.gov	August 2, 2010

For more info:

<http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/SearchServlet>

Small Business Administration
Economic Injury Loans

SBA's disaster loan program is the only form of SBA assistance not limited to small businesses. Disaster loans from SBA help homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and nonprofit organizations fund rebuilding. SBA's disaster loans are a critical source of economic stimulation in disaster ravaged communities, helping to spur employment and stabilize tax bases.

What Types of Disaster Loans are Available?

- Home Disaster Loans – Loans to homeowners or renters to repair or replace disaster damaged real estate or personal property owned by the victim. Renters are eligible for their personal property losses, including automobiles.
- Business Physical Disaster Loans – Loans to businesses to repair or replace disaster-damaged property owned by the business, including real estate, inventories, supplies, machinery and equipment. Businesses of any size and most private, non-profit organizations are eligible. Non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, private universities, etc., are also eligible.
- Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) – are working capital loans to help small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, and most private, non-profit organizations of all sizes meet their ordinary and necessary financial obligations that cannot be met as a direct result of the disaster. These loans are intended to assist through the disaster recovery period.

Individuals and businesses may obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for people with speech or hearing disabilities) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT, or by sending an email to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Deadline: **December 29, 2010**

For more info:

<https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>

Small Business Administration
Small Business Innovation Research / Small Business Technology Transfer

PHS 2008-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH, CDC, and FDA for Small Business Innovation Research Grant Applications
PHS 2008-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH for Small Business Technology Transfer Grant Applications

Receipt Date(s): **August 5, December 5**

For more info:

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/sbirsttr1/2008-2_SBIR-STTR-topics.pdf

Small Business Administration
Grants for Regional Cluster Initiatives

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today the availability of funding to support economic development and job creation through existing regional clusters. As part of its Regional Cluster Initiative, SBA will accept proposals from local and regional cluster initiatives beginning July 7 for funding of up to \$600,000 per cluster to support up to 15 projects across the country. Proposals should be submitted by the cluster's coordinating entity.

SBA's Regional Cluster Initiative focuses on accelerating small business growth and job creation through clusters that leverage and align a region's economic, business and workforce assets. Regional clusters are networks of organizations and businesses in a geographic area that grow through increased collaboration, efficiency and innovation.

SBA is launching two programs within its Regional Cluster Initiative: Regional Innovation Clusters (RICs) and Advanced Defense Technologies (ADTs).

Regional Innovation Clusters

Successful offerors will receive a one-year contract with an option for an additional year to provide business training, commercialization and technology transfer services, counseling, mentoring and other services that support the growth and development of small businesses in the cluster area and its industries.

SBA will select clusters across the country that meet specified criteria. In each initiative, interested offerors will be asked to demonstrate that they have the partnerships, technical capacity and local assets to support their existing regional cluster.

Regional Innovation Clusters will be assessed on the impact they will have on the region's economic growth, creation of sustainable jobs and the opportunities the cluster provides for small businesses.

Advanced Defense Technologies

SBA is working with the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) to identify areas around the country where regional innovation clusters can help meet critical defense technology needs. Successful offerors that meet specified criteria will receive a one-year contract with an option for an additional year to provide business training, counseling, mentoring, matchmaking, and other services to small businesses that focus on critical DOD technologies.

Areas of high-growth potential critical to DOD include, but are not limited to, advanced robotics, advanced defense systems, power/energy innovations, cyber-security and applied lightweight materials. In each project, interested offerors will be asked to demonstrate that they have the partnerships, technical capacity, and local assets to support developing or existing regional clusters.

Experience working with DOD's Small Business Innovative Research program and defense technology development programs is preferred. Offerors with Defense Security Service Facility Clearances who can hold security clearances and discuss classified material on site are also preferred but not required.

For more info:

<http://www.fedbizopps.gov>

Additional information on the RIC solicitation (SBAHQ-10-R-0021) is available at

<https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=7e3fa820644db3b29f99bb14adec6b5b&tab=core&view=0>

Small Business Administration
Patriot Express Loan Initiative

In just three years' time, the U.S. Small Business Administration's Patriot Express Pilot Loan Initiative has supported nearly \$500 million in Patriot Express loans to small businesses owned and operated by veterans, reservists and their spouses.

Patriot Express Loans, which can be used to start or expand a small business, increased over the past two years due in part to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which raised loan guarantees to 90 percent, and temporarily eliminated fees for borrowers on all SBA loans. To date more than 6,000 loans have been made.

Patriot Express was launched June 28, 2007, to expand upon the nearly \$1 billion in loans SBA guarantees annually for veteran-owned businesses. SBA also offers counseling assistance and procurement support each year to more than 200,000 veterans, service-disabled veterans, reservists and members of the National Guard.

Patriot Express is a streamlined loan product based on the agency's highly successful SBA Express Program, but with an enhanced guaranty and interest rate. Patriot Express loans are offered by SBA's network of participating lenders

nationwide and features one of SBA's fastest turnaround times for loan approvals. Patriot Express loans are available for up to \$500,000.

The Patriot Express loan can be used for most business purposes, including start-up, expansion, equipment purchases, working capital, inventory or business-occupied real-estate purchases. Local SBA district offices can provide lists of Patriot Express lenders in their areas. Patriot Express is available to military community members including veterans, service-disabled veterans, active-duty service members participating in the military's Transition Assistance Program, Reservists and National Guard members, current spouses of any of the above, and the widowed spouse of a service member or veteran who died during service, or of a service-connected disability.

For more info:

www.sba.gov/patriotexpress

Small Business Administration
The Small Business Advocate

The monthly newsletter for Small Businesses.

For more info:

<http://www.sba.gov/advo/july10.pdf>

Small Business Administration
Guarantees on Pools of Portions of Eligible 504 First Mortgage Loans

The U.S. Small Business Administration today announced the first nine loan pool originators authorized by the agency to assemble and sell pools of 504 program first mortgage loans, a major step to jump-starting a secondary market that should make fixed asset financing more widely available for small businesses.

Prior to the recent disruption in the credit market, a private secondary market for these loans existed, but has not revived as the economy has started to rebound. SBA expects this new program to breathe new life into that secondary market and improve access to credit for small businesses by providing a resource that can help boost liquidity to small business lenders. Under the program, the SBA will provide a government guarantee on pools of portions of eligible 504 first mortgage loans assembled by approved pool originators to be sold to third-party investors. Lenders will retain at least 15 percent of each individual loan, pool originators will assume 5 percent of the risk, and the SBA will guarantee the remaining 80 percent.

Typically, a 504 project includes three elements: a loan (or first mortgage) secured with a senior lien from a private-sector lender covering up to 50 percent of the project cost, a second mortgage secured with a junior lien from a Certified Development Company (backed by a 100 percent SBA-guaranteed debenture) covering up to 40 percent of the cost, and a contribution of at least 10 percent equity from the small business borrower.

Under the new program, portions of the senior liens are pooled by pool originators and sold to investors in the secondary market. To be eligible to be included in a pool, the first mortgage must be associated with a 504 loan disbursed on or after February 17, 2009. The program **will be in place until February 16, 2011, OR until \$3 billion in new pools** are created, whichever occurs first.

For more info:

<http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/elending/secondarymarket/index.html>

General Services Administration
Mentor-Protégé Program offers Small Businesses Government Contract Opportunities

The General Services Administration (GSA) offers a Mentor-Protégé Program that is specifically designed to encourage prime contractors to help small businesses be more successful in government contracting and enhance their ability to perform successfully on government contracts and subcontracts.

The program is intended to encourage large and small companies to foster and establish long-term relationships and, ultimately, increase the number of small businesses that receive GSA prime contract and subcontract awards.

To be eligible for selection as a protégé, a firm must be a small business, small disadvantaged business, women-owned small business, HUBZone small business, veteran-owned small business, or service-disabled veteran-owned small business that meets the definition of a small business concern outlined at FAR 19.001, based on their primary North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code.

For more info:

http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/contentView.do?contentType=GSA_OVERVIEW&contentId=28410

United States Department of Education
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Smaller Learning Communities

The Smaller Learning Communities program awards discretionary grants to local educational agencies to support the restructuring of large public high schools into smaller units for the purpose of improving academic achievement.

Application deadline: **August 6, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible: local education agencies

For more info:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-15084.pdf>

United States Department of Education
Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools: Safe and Supportive Schools

Safe and Supportive Schools awards grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) to support statewide measurement of, and targeted programmatic interventions to improve, conditions for learning in order to help schools improve safety and reduce substance use. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)

Application deadline: **August 9, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible: SEAs, as defined by section 9101(41) of the ESEA

For more info:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-16811.pdf>

Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy
National Grant Program

The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy is accepting applications for its annual national grant competition. The grantmaking program is designed to help develop or expand projects that support the development of literacy skills for adult primary care givers and their children. Eligible organization must operate an instructional literacy program that has been in existence for at least two years and includes one or more of the following components:

- literacy for adults,
- parent education,
- pre-literacy or literacy instruction for children pre-kindergarten to grade three, or

intergenerational literacy activities.

Application deadline: **September 10, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible: Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations and public agencies

For more info:

<http://www.barbarabushfoundation.com/>

National Endowment for the Arts
Access to Artistic Excellence Grants

The National Endowment for the Arts will provide support for a wide array of artistic creativity, including dance, literature, music, and more, that will preserve diverse cultural heritage and make the arts more widely available in communities throughout the country. Applicants must select one of the following disciplines that is most appropriate to the project: artist communities; dance; design; folk and traditional arts; literature, local arts agencies; media arts; museums; music; musical theater; opera; presenting; theater; and visual arts. Access to Artistic Excellence supports projects for children and youth where the focus is exposure to or appreciation of the arts, whether activities take place in school, after school, during the summer, or in community settings. Such projects may include performances by or exhibitions of professional artists, and these arts events may be accompanied by ancillary learning activities, such as study guides for teachers and students, artists' visits prior to or following the event, workshops, lecture-demonstrations, or master classes).

Application deadline: **August 12, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible:

Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations with 501 (c) 3 status and public agencies

For more info:

www.arts.gov/grants/apply/Artsed.html

National Endowment for the Arts
Grants Available for Arts on Television and Radio

The National Endowment for the Arts seeks to make the excellence and diversity of the arts widely available to the American public through nationally distributed television and radio programs. Grants are available to support the development, production, and national distribution of radio and television programs on the arts. Priority will be given to artistically excellent programs that have the potential to reach a significant national audience, regardless of the size or geographic location of the applicant organization. Only programs of artistic excellence and merit, in both the media production and the subject, will be funded.

Application deadline: **September 2, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible:

Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations with 501 (c) 3 status, units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes

For more info:

<http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/RadioTV/index.html>

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Access to Artistic Excellence

The National Endowment for the Arts seeks to make the excellence and diversity of the arts widely available to the American public through nationally distributed television and radio programs. Grants are available to support the development, production, and national distribution of radio and television programs on the arts. Priority will be given to artistically excellent programs that have the potential to reach a significant national audience, regardless of the size or geographic location of the applicant organization. Only programs of artistic excellence and merit, in both the media production and the subject, will be funded.

Application deadline: **August 12, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible:

State and local government agencies, school districts, institutions of higher education, and not-for-profit organizations with 501 (c) 3 status

For more info:

www.nea.gov/grants/apply/Artsed.html

National Endowment for the Humanities
America's Historical and Cultural Organizations

America's Historical and Cultural Organizations grants support projects in the humanities that explore stories, ideas, and beliefs in order to deepen our understanding of our lives and our world. The Division of Public Programs supports the development of humanities content and interactivity that excite, inform, and stir thoughtful reflection upon culture, identity, and history in creative and new ways. Grants for America's Historical and Cultural Organizations should encourage dialogue, discussion, and civic engagement, and they should foster learning among people of all ages. To that end, the Division of Public Programs urges applicants to consider more than one format for presenting humanities ideas to the public.

Application deadline: **August 18, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible:

Any U.S. nonprofit organization with IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies. Eligible institutions include but are not limited to public, school, academic, and research libraries; museums; disciplinary and professional associations; cultural institutions; state humanities councils; and institutions of higher learning. Individuals are not eligible to apply.

For more info:

http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/AHCO_PlanningGuidelines.html

National Endowment for the Humanities
Picturing America School Collaboration Projects

Building on the national distribution of Picturing America, the National Endowment for the Humanities invites proposals for local and regional projects that foster collaboration between elementary and secondary school teachers and humanities scholars to encourage engagement with the rich resources of American art to tell America's story. Picturing America School Collaboration Projects grants are designed to help teachers incorporate Picturing America images into the teaching of core subjects. These images will help students better understand America's diverse people and places and connect them to the nation's history, which is reflected in the themes of Picturing America: Leadership, Freedom and Equality, Democracy, Courage, Landscape, and Creativity and Ingenuity. The goals of the Picturing America School Collaboration Projects grants are to:

- strengthen understanding of the connections between great works of American art and significant events, themes, and topics in the American experience;
- encourage local and regional collaboration between teachers and humanities experts who can bring appropriate knowledge to the integration of American artworks in core subjects;
- foster discussion of how to use Picturing America images among teachers within a locality or region; and provide access to rich scholarly resources and primary materials that support teaching.

Application deadline: **October 7, 2010**

Kinds of Organizations Eligible:

Tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations with 501 (c) 3 status and state and local governmental agencies

For more info:

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/PASCP.html>

Department of Housing and Urban Development
Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants

On June 24, HUD released its [NOFA](#) for \$98 million in regional planning grants under the new Sustainable Communities Initiative. The goal of the Initiative is to foster the development of sustainable communities that are consistent with six "Livability Principles" (e.g. transportation choice, affordable housing, economic competitiveness, supporting existing communities, coordinating policies and enhancing neighborhoods and communities).

Applicants must be a multi-jurisdictional consortia of government and nonprofit entities that includes the regional planning agency, the principal city and other localities and nonprofits to work with the consortium and general public. The NOFA sets out two funding categories: (1) Regional Plans for Sustainable Development and (2) Detailed Execution Plans and Programs.

The first will provide funds to develop new regional plans that incorporate the full range of sustainable community concerns. The second will support fine-tuning existing plans to better integrate livability principles, preparing more detailed execution plans and limited predevelopment planning for "catalytic" projects. Grantees will have up to three years to complete the work. Awards will vary by the size of the region, ranging from \$100,000 to \$1 million for small areas and from \$500,000 to \$5 million for large metropolitan regions.

HUD will score applications for (1) organizational capacity; (2) regional need (including a number of housing measures such as costs, the percentage of the population paying more than 45% of income for housing and transportation, and the availability of subsidized housing near major employment centers); (3) soundness of the proposed approach; and (4) ability to evaluate outcomes.

Application deadline: **August 23, 2010**

For more info:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa10/scrpgsec.pdf>

Department of Housing and Urban Development
Choice Neighborhoods FY2010 NOFA Pre-Notice

On May 21, HUD issued a "pre-notice" for its upcoming NOFA for the Choice Neighborhoods demonstration program. The \$65 million program is funded through a set within the HOPE VI account. Its goal is to transform high-poverty neighborhoods by revitalizing severely distressed public and/or other HUD assisted housing and supporting investments to ensure quality services, schools, public transportation and access to jobs. Eligible applicants include local governments, PHAs, non-profits or public-private partnerships.

The pre-notice is intended to help potential applications to prepare for the NOFA and describes the types of grants HUD intends to award, its timeline, eligibility criteria and selection process. Applicants will have **60 days** to submit an application after the NOFA is published sometime this summer. HUD will fund two types of grants – planning grants and implementation grants – using two competitive rounds. It expects to award \$3 million in planning grants of up to \$250,000 – all to be awarded in the first round. It expects to award \$62 million in implementation grants (for applicants that already have done comprehensive planning), using the first round to narrow the field to about 10 finalists and the second round to make actual awards to two or three.

For more info:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa10/choiceprenote.pdf>

BE PREPARED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GRANTS:

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) is the primary source of federal grants program information, although actual funding depends upon annual congressional budget appropriations. The Catalog is available free full-text on the Internet at <http://www.cfda.gov/> and allows searching by keyword and by various indexes such as department, agency, program, subject, beneficiary, and applicant eligibility.

Federal grant funding opportunities are posted on the website **Grants.gov** <http://www.grants.gov>. The website enables grant seekers to electronically find and apply for competitive grants from all federal agencies. Again, for full program information, CFDA numbers are given. The site also allows users to receive e-mail notification of future grant opportunities, to apply for federal grants online through a unified process, and to track their grant application after submission.

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius unveiled a new feature on **Grants.gov** to help users find and apply for The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant opportunities.

The launch of this Recovery Act feature on the homepage of Grants.gov will direct users to Recovery Act opportunities, other Recovery Act resources, upcoming Webinars and links to www.whitehouse.gov/recovery and www.recovery.gov.